

Remarks

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed May 28, 2004. No fee is due for the addition of any new claims. An appropriate Petition for Extension of Time to Respond is submitted herewith, together with the appropriate fee.

Color Drawings

Applicant submitted color drawings, a Petition to Accept Color Drawings under 37 CFR §1.84 and the petition fee with the initial filing of the present patent application on March 4, 1999. The drawings as filed have been approved by the Draftsperson on August 29, 2001. Besides the Draftsperson's approval, Applicant has not received a notice or other indication of acceptance or rejection regarding the Petition to Accept Color Drawings. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to contact the below signed attorney if there are any questions or there is anything else the Applicant needs to do, such as provide a second copy of the original color drawings, to have the submitted Color Drawings accepted as part of the application.

Claims

Claims 15, 18-20, 30-33, 36-38, 43, 46 and 47 are pending in the present Application. In the Final Office Action preceding the current Advisory Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 15, 18-20, 43, 46-47, rejected claims 30-31 and 36-38, and objected to claims 32 and 33 solely as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. In Response E to the Final Office Action, Applicant replaced claims 32 and 33 so that they incorporate the independent claim they depend from and all intervening claims and replaced claims 30 and 36. In the present Advisory Action, Examiner stated that the replacement claims 30 and 36 raise new issues and are therefore not entered. The present Response F cancels claims 30-31 and 36-38, leaving for the Examiner's present consideration allowed claims 15, 18-20, 32-33, 43, 46 and 47.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if there are outstanding issues the Examiner has with the state of the Application.

Enclosed is a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for extending the time to respond up to and including today, June 21, 2004.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

6/21/04

By: _____



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